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FAX TRANSMISSION September 13, 2006

TO: Mail Stop: AMENDMENT  
Commissioner for Patents  
PO Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

FROM: Douglas P. Mueller

OUR REF: 10873.1571USWO

TELEPHONE: (612) 455.3800

Total pages, including cover letter: 21


PTO FAX NUMBER: 571.273.8300

If all pages are NOT received, please call us at 612.455.3800 or fax us at 612.455.3801.

Title of Document: **Information Disclosure Statement, Form 1449, 1 reference, copy of  
Japanese Office Action with its English Translation**

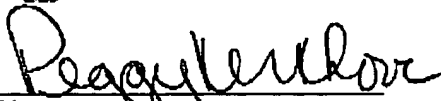
Applicant: KITAOKA, et al  
Serial No.: 10/518136  
App. Filed: December 15, 2004  
Group Art No.: 2884  
Confirmation No.: 5287

Please charge any additional fees or credit overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-3478. Please consider this a PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME for a sufficient number of months to enter these papers, if appropriate.

By:   
Name: Douglas P. Mueller  
Reg. No.: 10,300

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Peggy J. Kerkhove

  
Signature

September 14, 2006  
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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant:	KITAOKA, et al.	Examiner:	Unknown
Serial No.:	10/518,136	Group Art Unit:	2884
Filed:	December 15, 2004	Docket:	10873.1571USWO
Title:	FLUOROMETER		

CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR 1.6(d): I hereby certify that this paper is being transmitted by facsimile to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on September 14, 2006.  
By: Peggy Kerkhove  
Name: Peggy Kerkhove

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Mail Stop Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

With regard to the above-identified application, the items of information listed on the enclosed Form 1449 are brought to the attention of the Examiner. The art was recently cited in a Japanese Office Action mailed June 15, 2006. A copy of the office action along with an English translation is enclosed. JP 2000-246227, JP 2001-124696, JP2002-350732, JP 2002-181706 and JP 2000-304699, which are cited in the office action, were previously cited by the Applicant in an IDS filed on August 11, 2005. Copies of any foreign patent documents or "Other Documents" are enclosed.

A concise explanation of the relevance of each non-English language document or other information is as follows (37 C.F.R. §(a)(3)):

An English abstract has been included for JP 6-317526

In accordance with the provisions of 37 C.F.R. §1.97, this statement is being filed (CHECK ONE):

- ☒ (1) within three (3) months of the Filing Date, before the mailing date of a First Office Action on the merits, or before the mailing date of a First Office Action on the merits after the filing of a request for continued examination under 37 C.F.R. §1.114; or
- ☐ (2) after the period defined in (1) but before the mailing date of a Final Rejection or Notice of Allowance, and

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- ☐ the requisite Statement is below, OR
- ☐ the requisite fee of \$180.00 under Rule 1.17(p) is included herein, or
- ☐ (3) after the mailing date of a Final Rejection or Notice of Allowance but on or before the payment of the Issue Fee, AND
- ☐ the requisite Statement is below, AND
- ☐ the requisite fee of \$180.00 under Rule 1.17(p) is included herein.

**STATEMENT**

As required under §1.97(e), Applicants hereby state either that:

- ☐ 1. Each item of information contained in the Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing date of the Information Disclosure Statement; or
- ☐ 2. No item of information contained in the Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, and to the knowledge of the person signing this Statement after making reasonable inquiry, no item of information contained in the Information Disclosure Statement was known to any individual designated in §1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of the Information Disclosure Statement.
- ☐ If this box is checked, Applicant provides the following:

**Certification Under 37 C.F.R. §1.704(d)**

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.704(d), the undersigned hereby certifies that each item listed on the enclosed Form 1449 was first cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart application, and that this communication was not received by any individual designated in 37 C.F.R. §1.56(c) more than thirty (30) days prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement.

- ☐ The Examiner is hereby advised of the following co-pending U.S. applications. A copy of each U.S. patent application publication (if published) or application (if not published) is enclosed.

Application No.Filing DateGroup

No representation is made that a reference is "prior art" within the meaning of 35 U.S.C. §§ 102 and 103 and Applicants reserve the right, pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.131 or otherwise, to establish that the reference(s) are not "prior art." Moreover, Applicants do not represent that a reference has been thoroughly reviewed or that any relevance of any portion of a reference is intended.

Consideration of the items listed is respectfully requested. Pursuant to the provisions of M.P.E.P. 609, it is requested that the Examiner return a copy of the attached Form 1449, marked as being considered and initialed by the Examiner, to the undersigned with the next official communication.

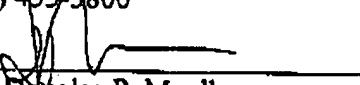
**FEE AUTHORIZATION**

Should any fee associated with the submission of this paper not be attached hereto as a check, the Commissioner is authorized to charge the missing fee to our Deposit Account, No. 50-3478. Any overpayments should be credited to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

HAMRE, SCHUMANN, MUELLER &  
LARSON, P.C.  
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Minneapolis, MN 55402-0902  
(612) 455-3800

Dated: September 14, 2006

By:   
Douglas P. Mueller  
Reg. No. 30,300

DPM/pjk



Date Mailed: September 14, 2006

Sheet 1 of 1

<b>FORM 1449*</b> <b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT</b>  <b>IN AN APPLICATION</b> (Use several sheets if necessary)	Docket Number: 10873.1571USWO	Application Number: 10/518.136
	Applicant: KITAOKA	
	Filing Date: August 11, 2005	Group Art Unit: 2884

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS						
EXAMINER INITIAL	DOCUMENT NO.	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS							
	DOCUMENT NO.	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION	
						YES	NO
	6-317526	November, 1994	Japan			Abstract	

OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)		

**52835**

PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE

EXAMINER	DATE CONSIDERED
EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form for next communication to the Applicant.	

\*Substitute Disclosure Statement Form (PTO-1449)

Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE